

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending. Claims 1-12 stand rejected.

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Support for the amendments is found in the specification, the drawings, and in the claims as originally filed. Applicant submits that the amendments do not add new matter.

Provisional Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-12 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 1 of copending Application No. 10/038,894.

Applicant here filed a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) to overcome provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-4, 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,890,011, of Abbondanzio et al. ("Abbondanzio").

Applicant has amended claim 1 to particularly point out maintaining a global resource namespace including a list of a plurality child and parent resource objects, wherein parent resource objects represent physical and virtual resources.

Amended claim 1 reads as follows.

A method, comprising:
maintaining a global resource namespace including a list of a plurality child and parent resource objects, wherein parent resource objects represent physical and virtual resources, and a representation of the relationships among the child and parent resource objects; and
attaching an additional child resource object to one of the plurality of parent resource objects.

(Amended claim 1) (emphasis added)

Abbondanzio, in contrast, discloses dynamically translating a bus address for a device within a computer system having a plurality of buses connected hierarchically. Abbondanzio discloses that

This bus address translation occurs when a hardware device is being accessed for the first time either by an operating system or by an application software. An open device is requested for the first time, as shown in block 51. Information about this device and its parent bus are then obtained by the HRM from the Hardware Namespace, as illustrated in block 52. Device information may indicate resource such as I/O port address, IRQ address, DMA address, I/O memory address, etc. A determination is made as to whether or not the device is enumerable, as depicted in block 53. An enumerable device is a bus bridge while a non-enumerable device is a hardware device. If the device is enumerable, the HRM utilizes an interface provided by the Bus Manager to map a bus resource pool of the child bus to a parent bus, as shown in block 54. There may be several possible ranges in the parent bus bridge that the child bus bridge can be enabled to decode. Given this information from the parent bus, the HRM can determine the conflict free range to map the child bus to the parent bus. The bus resource pool describes all the address ranges to the parent bus that are available for the child device to utilize.

(Abbondanzio, col. 5, line 56-col. 6, line 10) (emphasis added)

In particular, Abbondanzio discloses

The resource configuration contains information such as IRQ address or I/O port address in which the hardware device can be accessed. The bus resource pool and the resource configuration are collectively referred to as the RESOURCE information from here on. A determination is made by the HRM as to whether or not the RESOURCE information is returned from the parent bus manager successfully, as shown in block 56.

(Abbondanzio, col. 6, line 13-col. 6, line 20) (emphasis added)

In contrast, Abbondanzio discloses a Hardware Namespace containing merely an address of a device (“resource configuration”) and the available address ranges in the parent bus (“ bus resource pool”) for this device. Accordingly, Abbondanzio fails to disclose maintaining a global resource namespace including a list of a plurality child and parent resource objects, wherein parent resource objects represent physical and virtual resources, as recited in amended claim 1.

Because Abbondanzio does not set forth all the limitations of amended claim 1, applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Abbondanzio under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Because amended independent claim 7 contains at least the same limitations as the amended claim 1, applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 7 is likewise not anticipated by Abbondanzio under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Given that claims 2-6 and 8-12 depend, directly or indirectly, from amended independent claims 1 and 7 respectively, and add additional limitations, applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-6 and 8-12 are likewise not anticipated by Abbondanzio under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 5, 6, 11, 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Abbondanzio in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,450,570 of Richek et al. ("Richek").

With respect to amended claim 1, Abbondanzio, as set forth above, fails to disclose, teach, or suggest maintaining a global resource namespace including a list of a plurality child and parent resource objects, wherein parent resource objects represent physical and virtual resources.

Richek discloses automatically determining and setting the configuration of circuit boards in a computer system. More specifically, Richek discloses

The information in the configuration file consists of a series of parameters which serve two general purposes: common computer system resource allocation and circuit board initialization. Several parameters may specify common computer system resources used by a circuit board. These parameters may further specify various options for access to system resources that the board may use. For example, a file may contain the different number and type of interrupts that a board is capable of using. As described below, these parameters are used by the preferred embodiment of the present invention during the automatic computer system configuration process to ensure that the common computer system resources, such as memory address ranges, I/O address ranges, interrupt levels, and DMA channels used by a circuit board do not conflict with those other computer system devices.

(Richek, col. 5, line 54- col. 6, line 2) (emphasis added)

Thus, Richek discloses, in contrast, a configuration file having memory address ranges, I/O address ranges, interrupt levels, and DMA channels. Richek, similarly to Abbondanzio, fails to disclose maintaining a global resource namespace having child and parent resource objects, wherein parent resource objects represent physical and virtual resources, as recited in amended claim 1.

Hence, neither Abbondanzio, nor Richek discloses, teaches, or suggests such limitation of amended claim 1.

Furthermore, even if Abbondanzio and Richek were combined, such a combination would lack the limitation of amended claim 1 of maintaining in a global resource namespace child and parent resource objects, wherein parent resource objects represent physical and virtual resources.


Because amended independent claim 7 contains at least the same limitations as the amended claim 1, applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 7 is likewise not obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) over Abbondanzio in view of Richek.

Given that claims 2-6 and 8-12 depend, directly or indirectly, from amended independent claims 1 and 7 respectively, and add additional limitations, applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-6 and 8-12 are likewise not obvious under § 103 (a) over Abbondanzio in view of Richek.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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